

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An image forming apparatus comprising in the casing of the apparatus;

a belt member which is a photosensitive belt or an intermediate transfer belt or a transfer material carrying belt, a driving roller for driving said belt member, a follower roller, a tension roller for tensioning said belt member, the tension roller being located at the position remoter than the position of said follower roller from said driving roller, the distance between said driving roller and said follower roller being longer than that between said follower roller and said tension roller, and the belt being approximately linear in shape between said driving roller and follower roller;

an image detecting means located at a position below and facing the belt member between said driving roller and follower roller for detecting the toner image on said belt member; and

a contact member contacting ~~the~~ an upper, inside surface of the belt member at the position facing said image detecting means across the belt member to push the belt member toward said image detecting means.

2. (original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said belt member, driving roller, follower roller, and tension roller are integrated as a belt unit; and said contact member is attached to the belt unit.

3. (original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said contact member is a shaft member which is supported for rotation in the belt unit such that the outer perimeter thereof contacts the inside surface of the belt member.

4. (original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the casing of the apparatus is provided with a supporting frame with said image detecting means attached thereto, the supporting frame has at least two supporting recesses for supporting said shaft member, and said image detecting means is fixed to said supporting frame such that the image detecting means faces the line connecting the centers of said supporting recesses.

5. (original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said belt unit is detachable to said casing of the apparatus, and said shaft member comes to be supported in the supporting recesses when said belt unit is mounted to the casing of the apparatus.